

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 618

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Dr. Alphonse  
Pasipanodya for his skill as a practicing surgeon  
and excellence as a medical school professor.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those esteemed physicians who, through their respective practices and in their roles as researchers and medical school instructors, have proven themselves to be leaders in the field of medicine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Alphonse T. Pasipanodya is one such individual; an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at Meharry Medical College and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at Vanderbilt University, Dr. Pasipanodya has performed countless surgical procedures, many of which have saved the lives of his patients; and

WHEREAS, in addition, he has conducted pioneering research and taught scores of surgeons the skills that has allowed them to serve their own patients well; and

WHEREAS, a highly valued and important part of the medical research community, Dr. Pasipanodya has served as a reviewer for the Journal of the National Medical Association since 2005; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Alphonse Pasipanodya has long been a member of the Nashville medical community; he began teaching at Meharry as an Assistant Professor in 1981, a post he held until his promotion to Associate Professor in October 2006; and

WHEREAS, from 1984 to 1997, Dr. Pasipanodya acted as a Consultant Surgeon for the Tennessee State Prison System, and from 1988 to 1994, he was the Director of Hubbard Hospital's Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, born in Daramombe, Zimbabwe, Dr. Pasipanodya moved to Nashville after graduating from Kutama High School in his home country; he graduated *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Fisk University in 1967; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pasipanodya earned a Master of Science degree in zoology from Tennessee State University in 1970; he then entered medical school at Meharry Medical College, from which he received his Doctor of Medicine in 1974; and

WHEREAS, he remained at Meharry for a straight surgical internship and his residency, which he completed in 1979; during that fifth and final year of his surgical residency, Dr. Alphonse Pasipanodya served as Chief General Surgery Resident, an early indication of his leadership ability and his skill as a surgeon; and

WHEREAS, he first became a Diplomat of the American Board of Surgery in 1981, and he has maintained his certification since; Dr. Pasipanodya is licensed to practice in both Tennessee and Georgia; and

WHEREAS, a well regarded member of many professional societies and associations, Dr. Pasipanodya belongs to the Nashville Surgical Association, the Tennessee Surgical Association, the R. F. Boyd Surgical Association, the National Medical Association, the Tennessee Medical Association, and the Society of Black Academic Surgeons; he is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons; and

WHEREAS, at Meharry, he is a member of numerous committees, including the Surgery Advisory Committee, the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, the Infectious Disease Committee, the Medical School Committee, and the Morbidity and Mortality Committee, and he is also involved with Admissions for the School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Dr. Pasipanodya has been nominated twice for the Exemplary Teaching Award, in both 2006 and 2007, and he received the Kaiser Permanente Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Alphonse Pasipanodya is deeply grateful for the support of his loving wife, Gwendolyn Pasipanodya; the couple are the proud parents of four children; and

WHEREAS, the people of this State and the nation of which it is a part rely on the expertise and compassion of medical professionals such as Dr. Alphonse Pasipanodya who use their considerable skills to improve the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, the dedication of medical practitioners, researchers, and instructors is vital to the well-being of our society, and these men and women should be duly recognized for their professionalism and devotion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Dr. Alphonse Pasipanodya for his skill as a practicing surgeon and excellence as a medical school professor, thank him for all he has done to improve the lives of his patients and bring comfort to their family members and loved ones, and wish him all the very best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.